

REMARKS

Claims 12-14 are allowed. Independent claim 1 is rejected for being obvious in view of U.S. Patent Publication 2004/0073617 (Milliken), U.S. Patent 7,711,779 (Goodman) and U.S. Patent Publication 2001/0037453 (Mitty). Reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Independent claim 1 recites an operation of “generating one or more signatures using a length of the electronic communication and the URLs extracted.” This solution resolves the problem of a spammer randomizing the contents of a message.

The Examiner acknowledges that this feature is not taught by Milliken or Goodman. However, the Examiner now relies upon Mitty for disclosing “the generation of a ‘unique waybill ID’ [0067] which is a CRC of the encrypted message and a digest of the encrypted message. The digest includes the ‘message length’.” Paragraph [0067] discusses archiving operations. There is no teaching related to the claimed generation of a signature using a length of the electronic communication and the URLs extracted. Archiving a message length does not show, suggest or render obvious the use of a message length and extracted URLs to generate a signature. Mitty does no more than archive a message length; paragraph [0067] states: “For example, using conventional techniques, sender 105 may archive the ID, the digest of the message M1 the digest algorithm identifier, e-mail addresses and certificates for the recipient(s) 120, subject text, filenames, message length, and various information specific to the services requested, e.g., insurance level, notary information, etc.” Thus, Mitty does not support a rejection of claim 1. Therefore, claim 1 and its dependent claims 2-9 should be in a condition for allowance.

Independent claim 15 specifies the use of a message length and extracted URLs to generate a signature. Therefore, claim 15 and its dependent claims 16-20 should also be in a condition for allowance.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that no further impediments exist to the allowance of this application and, therefore, requests an indication of allowability. However, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned if any questions or comments arise.

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